

CLAIMS

1. A housing for a light fixture comprising:
 - 5 - a body having a sidewall, the sidewall having a plurality of fin-engaging elements; and
 - at least one fin removably engaged with at least one of the fin-engaging elements.
- 10 2. The housing of claim 1 further comprising a plurality of fins.
3. The housing of claim 2 wherein the plurality of fins is equivalent to the plurality of fin-engaging elements.
- 15 4. The housing of claim 2 wherein the plurality of fins is less than the plurality of fin-engaging elements, whereby the fins are selectively placed around the sidewall.
5. The housing of claim 2 wherein at least one fin differs from another fin in shape, color, or material.
- 20 6. The housing of claim 2 wherein at least one fin has a surface displaying indicia.
7. The housing of claim 2 wherein the fin-engaging elements are slots formed in the sidewall.
- 25 8. The housing of claim 7 wherein the sidewall is radially symmetrical about a central axis.
- 30 9. The housing of claim 8 wherein the sidewall is substantially cylindrical.

10. The housing of claim 8 wherein the slots are placed equidistantly around the circumference of the sidewall.

5 11. The housing of claim 7 wherein:

- the sidewall has an interior surface;
- each slot is formed to slideably receive and engage each fin; and
- each fin has at least one stop extending from a rear edge, each stop engaging the interior surface and holding the fin in place when the fin is inserted into at least one of the slots.

10 12. The housing of claim 11 wherein each slot has a catch attached to the interior surface, each catch being sized to receive and hold the stop.

15 13. The housing of claim 12 wherein:

- each slot runs substantially the length of the sidewall;
- the stop is a pair of flanges; and
- the catch is a channel that runs the length of the slot, whereby the channel slidably receives and engages the flanges.

20 14. The housing of claim 13 wherein:

- each channel has two ends; and
- a set screw is inserted in at least one of the ends between the channel and at least one of the flanges engaged by the channel, whereby each fin is secured firmly in position in the channel by the set screw.

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15. The housing of claim 14 wherein:

- the body has a body top-edge and a body bottom-edge;
- a top cap is fastened to the body top-edge;
- a bottom cap is fastened to the body bottom-edge;
- the sidewall, top cap, and bottom cap define a substantially enclosed space; and
- power-related components are secured with respect to the housing within the enclosed space.

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10. The housing of claim 13 further comprising:

- at least one strip, the strip including a series of LED elements;
- at least one fin is made from translucent material; and
- the strip is secured between the at least one fin and at least one channel,

whereby light from the strip is received by the fin.

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17. The housing of claim 2 wherein the sidewall has an exterior surface and the fin-engaging elements are grooves extending along the outer surface.

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18. The housing of claim 17 wherein the sidewall is substantially cylindrical.

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19. The housing of claim 17 wherein:

- each groove is formed to slideably receive and engage each fin;
- the body has a body top-edge and a body bottom-edge;
- each fin has a first tab and a second tab extending from opposite ends of a rear edge;
- a cap-rim is fastened to the body top-edge, the cap-rim being sized to receive and capture each of the first tabs; and
- a collar-rim is fastened to the body bottom-edge, the collar-rim being sized to receive and capture each of the second tabs,

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30. whereby each fin is held in place by the cap-rim and the collar-rim.

20. The housing of claim 19 wherein the cap-rim has a plurality of cap-apertures and the collar-rim has a plurality of collar-apertures, each cap-aperture being in registry with one of the grooves and one of the collar-apertures and each cap-aperture and each collar-aperture being formed to receive and engage one of the tabs.

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21. The housing of claim 17 wherein each of the grooves is coplanar with a central axis of the body.

22. The housing of claim 1 wherein the body is formed by an extrusion process.

10 23. A method for fabricating a light fixture with selective and exchangeable fins comprising:

15 - providing a body having a sidewall, the sidewall having a plurality of fin-engaging elements; and

- removably engaging at least one fin with at least one of the fin-engaging elements.

20 24. The method of claim 23 further comprising the step of choosing the at least one fin from a group of fins of differing character.

25. The method of claim 23 wherein there is a plurality of fins less than the plurality of fin-engaging elements, whereby selected placement of the fins around the sidewall is possible.

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